Chollas Creek Metals TMDL Workshop & CEQA Scoping Meeting

Jimmy Smith
Environmental Scientist
(858) 467-2732







Topics & Logistics

- Part 1 Metals TMDL Workshop
 - History, Current Status, Upcoming Events, Discussion
- Part 2 CEQA Scoping Meeting
 - Background, Purpose, Status, Impacts, Discussion
- Part 3 Proactive Involvement
 - Information Channels, Informal Working Group



Chollas Creek Watershed

Beneficial Uses:

REC2
WARM

WILD

*REC1



History

1996 Section 303(d) listing (toxicity)

TIEs pointed to Zn and Cu (Nov 1999)

Exceedance of CTR for Cd, Cu, Pb and Zn

• 1998 303(d) listing: toxicity, Cd, Cu, Pb, Zn and Bacteria

History

• Public Workshops (8/99, 12/99 and 5/00)

• Initial Drafts (5/00 and 9/00)

• Staff Departure (10/01)

2002 303(d) listing: diazinon, Cd, Cu, Pb & Zn

TMDL Elements

- Problem Statement
- Numeric Target
- Source Analysis
- Linkage Analysis
- Load and Waste Load Allocations
- Margin of Safety
- Seasonal Variation
- Implementation Plan
 - Monitoring, Evaluation and Re-evaluation

TMIDL

WLAs for point sources

4

LAs for nonpoint sources and natural background

4

Seasonal Variation

4

Margin of Safety

TMDL =

Status

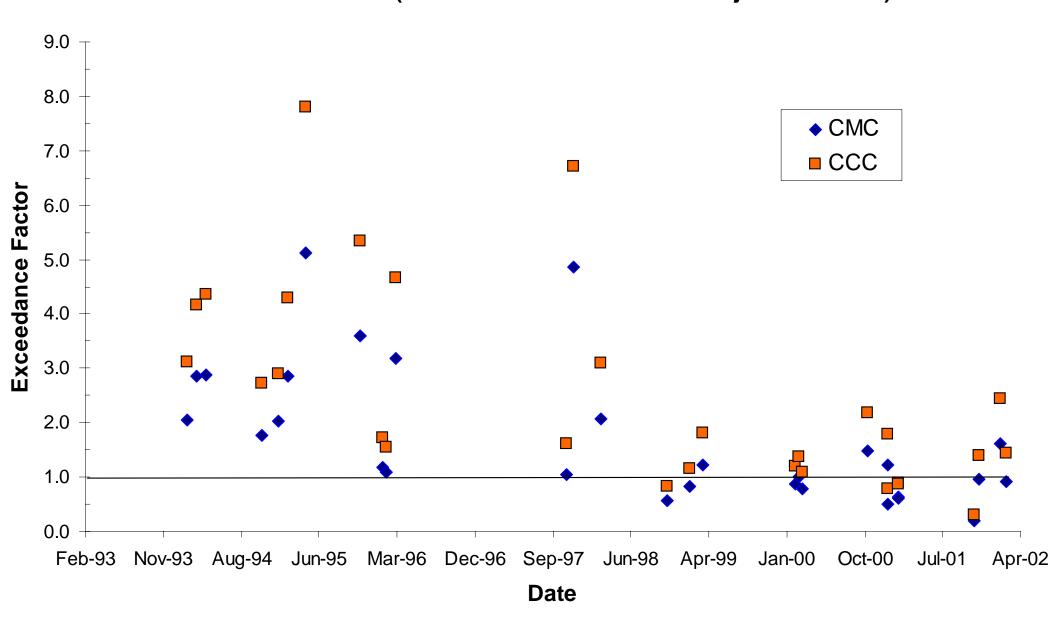
New staff assigned
 Jimmy Smith and Linda Pardy

Additional Data
 Continued monitoring by the City of San Diego

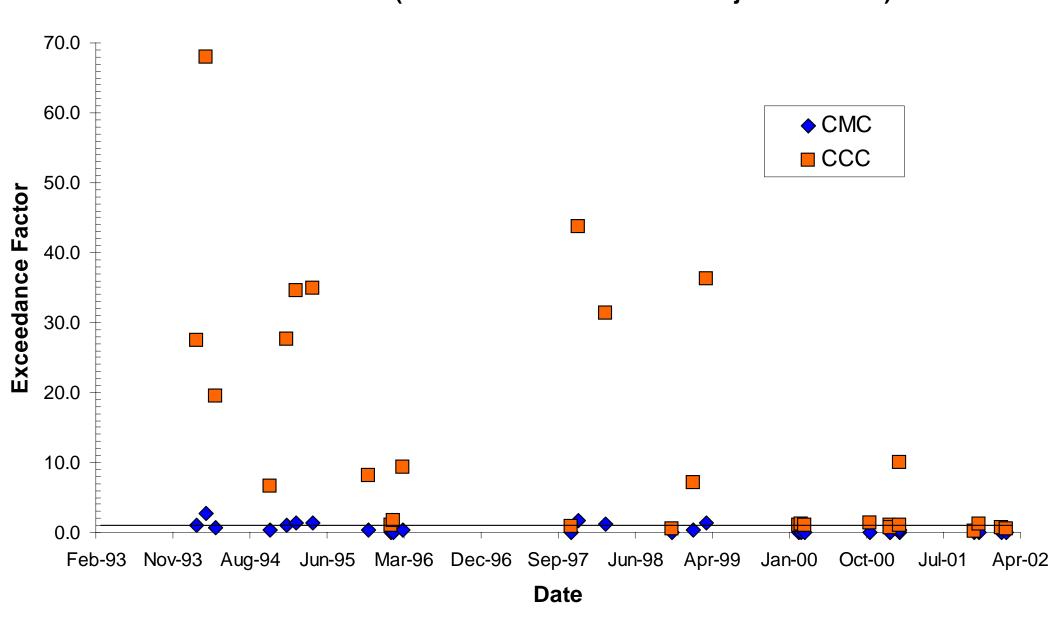
Data Visualization

- CTR CMC and CCC
 - vary with Hardness (avg in Chollas Creek~100mg/L)
- Exceedance Factor
 - (measured value / CTR criteria)
 - if >1, criteria is being exceeded
 - if <1, criteria is not being exceeded

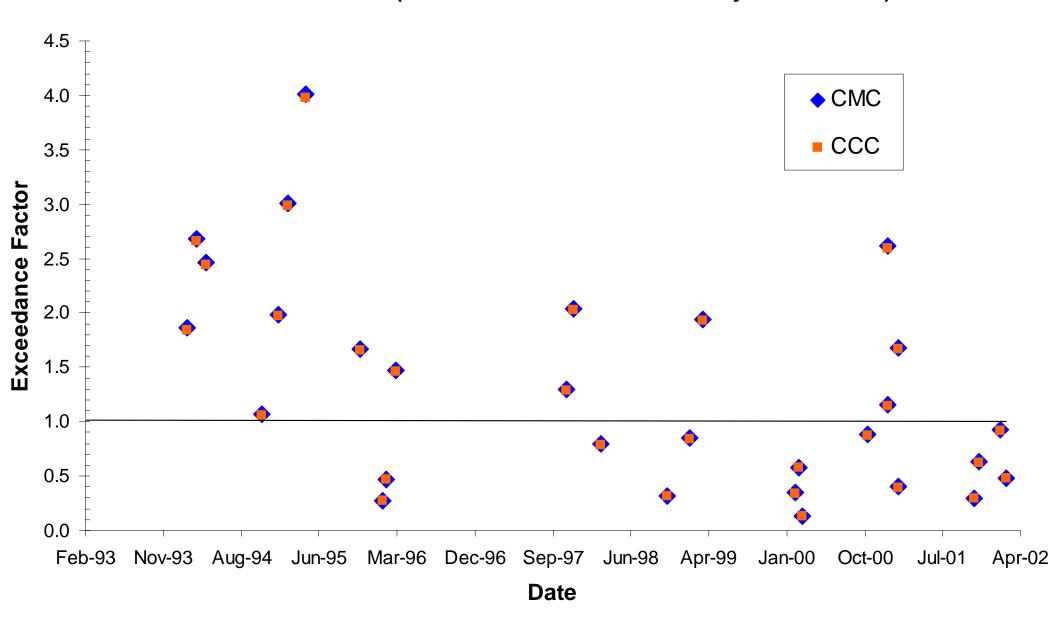
COPPER (dissolved)
Chollas Creek - Station SD8(1)
Exceedance Factors (measured value / hardness-adjusted criteria)



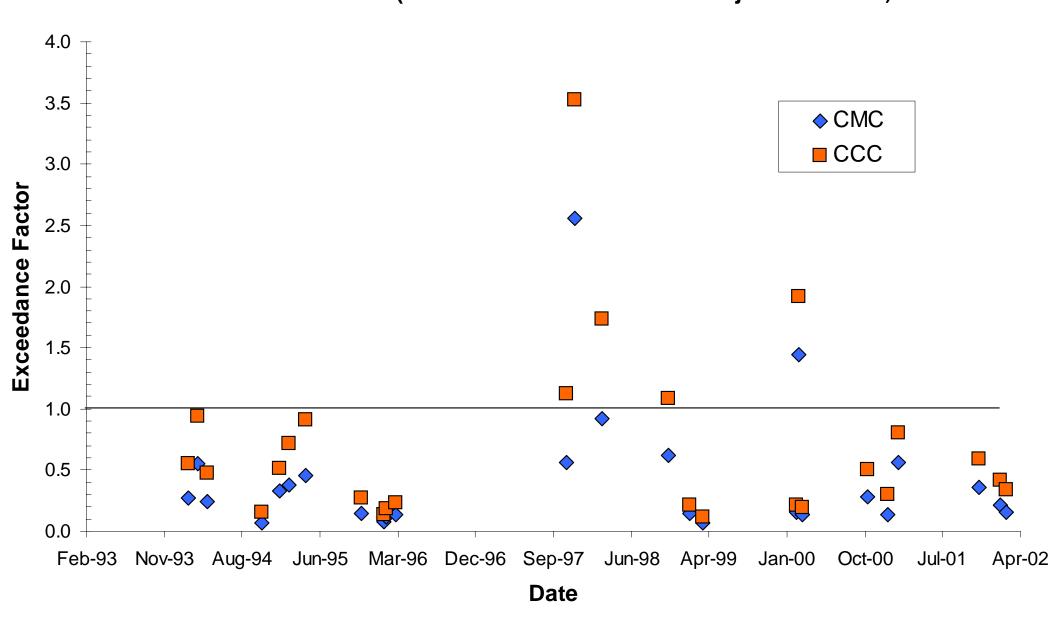
LEAD (dissolved)
Chollas Creek - Station SD8(1)
Exceedance Factors (measured value / hardness-adjusted criteria)



ZINC (dissolved)
Chollas Creek - Station SD8(1)
Exceedance Factors (measured value / hardness-adjusted criteria)



CADMIUM (dissolved)
Chollas Creek - Station SD8(1)
Exceedance Factors (measured value / hardness-adjusted criteria)



Problem Statement

Concentrations of Cd, Cu, Pb and Zn are exceeding CTR criteria, causing violation of the Toxicity WQO and are impairing the WARM and WILD Beneficial Uses of Chollas Creek

Numeric Targets

California Toxics Rule:

These Federal criteria are legally applicable in the State of California for inland surface waters, enclosed bays and estuaries for all purposes and programs under the Clean Water Act.

Draft Numeric Targets

Dissolved Fraction

CMC* CCC*

 $\underline{Metal} \qquad \underline{(\mu g/L) (SW)} \qquad \underline{(\mu g/L) (SW)}$

cadmium 4.3 (42.0) 2.2 (9.3)

copper 13.0 (4.8) 9.0 (3.1)

lead 65.0 (210.0) 2.5 (8.1)

zinc 120.0 (90.0) 120.0 (81.0)

Upcoming Events

Interaction with Interested Parties (Continuous)

• Technical Draft (Winter 03/04)

Complete Draft & Workshop (Spring 04)

• Two Step Board Approval (Fall 04)

Hearing Detail

- Complete Draft Released (30days prior to Hearing #1)
- Hearing #1: Receive Public Comments and consider closing Public Comment Period
- •Interim: Staff Responds to Comments, Incorporates changes and complies with Boards direction
- •Hearing #2: Board deliberates and considers adoption of the TMDL

Post Regional Board Adoption

- Agency Approvals
 - State Water Resources Control Board
 - Office of Administrative Law
 - United States Environmental Protection Agency
- Incorporate the regulatory provisions of the TMDL into NPDES Permits
- CDO, CAO and 13267

Summary and Discussion

- Conclusion
 - Update, inform as we re-kickoff this TMDL
- Discussion
 - Call for data/information (FW vs SW CTR, Source Analysis)
 - Implementation Ideas
 - Other...???



California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Purpose:

- Develop and maintain a high-quality environment now and in the future
 - Identify significant impacts
 - Avoid where possible
 - Mitigate where possible
- Ensure public disclosure/participation

Application of CEQA

- CEQA applies to "projects" proposed to be undertaken or requiring approval by State and local government agencies.
- "Projects" are activities which have the potential to have a physical impact on the environment

Basin Planning: Exempt from CEQA Requirements

- Considered "functionally equivalent" to the requirements of CEQA for preparation of environmental documentation [CCR Title 14, § 15251(g)]
- "Functionally equivalent" documents include: written report, initial draft of Basin Plan amendment, CEQA checklist [23 CCR 3776]

CEQA Scoping Meeting

- New legislation requires lead agency to conduct meeting
- Purpose: gain public input on scope and content of functionally equivalent documents

Defining the Scope

- Identify environmental impacts
- Identify measures to mitigate these impacts
- Identify alternatives for achieving compliance with TMDL (i.e. reducing metals in Chollas Creek)

Anticipated Impacts

 Potentially allows an input to SD Bay that is in excess of saltwater CTR Criteria (Cu and Zn)

Others?



How to stay informed

- Electronic Mail List Subscription
 http://swrcb8.swrcb.ca.gov/lyrisregion9/
- U.S. Mail List Subscription forms in the back
- Web Page

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb9/tmdls/chollas%20 creek%20metals.html

 Regional Board Office by appointment

Informal Working Group

Purpose
 share information, discuss challenges and obstacles early

Participants interested parties

Thoughts/ideas/questions??

